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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Don't Throw Away Your Chance to See This New Exhibit Art with an Environmental Message at Morris Center

Ridgeland, S.C., December 15, 2022 — The Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage is pleased to announce its upcoming exhibit *The (In)disposable Art of Kirkland Smith* which will be on view January 14, 2023 — July 15, 2023.

The art installation is a playful collection of assemblages. Drawing on her love of realism and portraiture, Smith creates 3-dimensional works that speak to environmental responsibility in a fresh, evocative way. For example, to portray the problem of overconsumption and its effects on society, she uses everyday disposable objects as her medium rather than the subject of her work. The artist hopes to spark an awareness of consumer habits and attitudes, driving home the message that while what we throw away says much about who we are, what we choose to cherish and protect says more in the end.

"As people are thinking about resolutions and positive changes, the new year is an ideal time for us to bring this meaningful exhibit to our community. Although it's fun and full of surprises, it will give visitors a lot to consider," says Morris Center Executive Director Tamara Herring.

Smith is a classical painter who began creating collage-style pieces of post-consumer waste almost by accident. She was searching for an innovative way to communicate the importance of reducing, reusing and recycling for her entry in an environmental landscape contest. Her solution was to use waste as her "paint."

Born in Mt. Pleasant, her lifelong dream was to be an artist. She resides with her husband and four children in Columbia, SC, where she takes commissions for assemblage pieces and teaches drawing and painting to children.

The Morris Center is open to the public Tuesday – Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.morrisheritagecenter.org">www.morrisheritagecenter.org</a>.

## **About Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage**

Located in the heart of downtown Ridgeland on US 17, the Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage is a learning and exhibition center dedicated to preserving and cultivating the history, culture and spirit of Ridgeland and its surrounding counties. Housed in a collection of vintage buildings, with the architecturally distinctive Sinclair Service Station as its focal point, the center

features ever-changing exhibitions, interactive and dynamic learning opportunities, cultural offerings, storytelling and other forms of art.